

Senate approves Goria government

ROME (AP) — The Senate on Saturday approved the newly formed five-party government led by Premier Giovanni Goria, a Christian Democrat. The lower house, the Chamber of Deputies, will begin its confirmation debate Monday and is expected to hold its confidence vote by midweek. Of the 306 senators who voted, 184 voted in favour of the new government and 122 opposed it. The government, the nation's 47th since the end of World War II, is composed of the Christian Democrats, who hold the most seats in parliament; the Socialists and three tiny parties — the Republicans, the Social Democrats and the Liberals. The same parties made up the previous government, which was the longest-lasting one in the post-war period. It was led by Socialist Bettino Craxi, who resigned in March after failing with Christian Democrats' efforts to control the premiership. The political crisis led to the dissolving of parliament and the holding of elections one year ahead of schedule. Winding up the debate on Saturday, Mr. Goria, 44, said his aim was to "guarantee the best government possible" adding that he hoped to iron out underlying political differences remaining between the Christian Democrats and the Socialists.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation

Italy refuses U.S. request

ROME (AP) — Italy has declined a United States request for help in U.S. efforts to remove mines in the Gulf, saving the problem of free passage in the Gulf should be resolved politically in an international forum, the Defence Ministry said in a statement released Saturday. The statement said that U.S. Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger had requested the participation of Italian minesweepers in a letter delivered to Defence Minister Valerio Zanone. The letter was delivered to Mr. Zanone by U.S. Ambassador Maxwell Rab in a meeting Friday night, the statement said. An official from the Foreign Ministry on Friday denied that there had been a U.S. request for help in minesweeping operations. The Defence Minister gave Italy's response to Mr. Weinberger following a meeting Saturday between Premier Giovanni Goria, Vice-Premier Giuliano Amato, Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti and Mr. Zanone, the statement said. The response said that while freedom of navigation was an "irrevocable principle of international rights," that "the question of the participation of Italian minesweepers in the Persian Gulf operations is not opportune in the present circumstances and conditions."

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King sends good wishes to Switzerland

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein sent a cable of good wishes on Saturday to Swiss President Pierre Aubert congratulating him on the occasion of his country's National Day. The King wished President Aubert continuing good health and happiness and the Swiss people further progress and prosperity.

Aug. 11 declared public holiday

AMMAN (Petra) — All government departments and public institutions will remain closed on Tuesday Aug. 11, 1987, to mark the occasion of His Majesty King Hussein's accession to the throne, a communiqué issued by the Prime Ministry said Saturday. King Hussein acceded to the throne on Aug. 11, 1952 when he was 17 years old, but assumed his constitutional powers on May 2, 1953 when he became 18.

Assad meets Iranian minister

DAMASCUS (AP) — President Hafez Al Assad conferred with Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Hussein Sheikulislam on Saturday, the Syrian News Agency (SANA) reported. The meeting was attended by Syrian Foreign Minister Farouq Al Sharar, the agency added. Iranian embassy sources that did not wish to be named said Mr. Sheikulislam briefed President Assad on the latest developments concerning the Iran-Iraq war and the Iranian reaction to a U.N. Security Council resolution calling for a ceasefire.

Arafat said seeking Islamic summit

ABU DHABI (AP) — Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat is campaigning for an emergency summit conference of Islamic leaders to deal with the deteriorating situation in the Gulf, official sources said Saturday. The Palestinian initiative was outlined by Mr. Arafat during an audience with United Arab Emirates President Sheikh Zayed Ibn Sultan Al Nahayan. The officials said. They spoke on condition they not be named. Kuwait hosted last January the last regular pan-Islamic summit conference.

Peres to attend U.N. General Assembly

TEL AVIV (R) — Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres will attend the opening of the U.N. General Assembly in New York next month, a Peres aide said on Saturday. The minister would address the assembly during his visit at the end of September and would meet leaders of several countries with which Israel had no diplomatic ties, the aide added.

Assad renews vow to seek parity with Israel

DAMASCUS (R) — President Hafez Al Assad vowed on Saturday that Syria would confront Israel until victory was achieved. "We will pursue our steadfast course... unhesitatingly determined to build a comprehensive strategic balance with the enemy," he said in an interview with two magazines to mark the Syrian army's 43rd anniversary.

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S. Arabia says hundreds killed in Iranian stampede after Mecca riot

Shaer: Not a single bullet was fired by Saudi forces

Iranians attack Kuwaiti and Saudi embassies in Tehran

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — Saudi Arabia said Saturday hundreds of people were killed during demonstrations by Iranian pilgrims in the Holy City of Mecca on Friday.

Saudi Arabia was demanding their release, it said.

"Hundreds of Iranians and pilgrims of other nationalities as well as Saudi citizens died under the feet of the Iranian pilgrims," Mr. Shaer said.

The television said Saudi Arabia rejected the Iranian version of the Mecca violence as mere lies.

Tehran said Saudi police deliberately attacked Iranian pilgrims who were chanting slogans against the United States, Israel and the Soviet Union.

Tehran Radio quoted an Iranian pilgrimage official in Mecca Saturday as saying at least 165 Iranians, men and women, have been confirmed dead and a large number were listed missing.

The unnamed official said he expected the death toll to rise to 300, and claimed that Iranian officials were receiving no cooperation from Saudi hospitals.

Hojatoleslam Mahdi Karrubi, a prominent representative of Iranian spiritual leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini to the Mecca pilgrimage, claimed in a press conference in Mecca Saturday that the Saudi government had planned in advance to massacre defenseless pilgrims, IRNA re-

Jordan condemns Iranian action and supports Saudi measures

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan on Saturday condemned Friday's riots in Iran by Iranians and said it supported the Saudi security forces' action to quell the rioters.

The condemnation came in two telephone conversations made by His Majesty King Hussein to Saudi King Fahd Ibn Abdul Aziz. King Hussein told the Saudi monarch that Jordan stood by Saudi Arabia in condemning the riots, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, said.

In the first telephone conversation, King Hussein told the Saudi leader that Saudi Arabia's security was part of Jordanian security and that "the security of the holy places was a sacred mission in itself, something which all Muslims around the world are keen on preserving," Petra said.

It quoted the King as saying that Jordan stood by Saudi Arabia in "all circumstances and under any conditions and the Jordanian people and government condemn such actions by the Iranians who had no respect for the holy places in Mecca and no regard for the hundreds of thousands of pilgrims who came from all over the world to perform the pilgrimage rites."

Later in the day, the King made a second telephone contact with King Fahd to express concern over the incident and hope that the security situation in the Holy City was returning to normal.

King Fahd assured King Hussein that the situation was calm and normal and that the pilgrims were carrying on with their Hajj rites in a quiet and calm atmosphere. King Hussein renewed Jordan's support of Saudi Arabia in its actions to protect the safety and security of the pilgrims.

ported.

In Tehran, furious demonstrators ransacked the Saudi and Kuwaiti embassies as Iranian leaders vowed "revenge" for the clashes in Mecca.

IRNA also said the French embassy was stormed. But a French Foreign Ministry spokesman denied the report.

(Continued on page 5)

Expelled PFLP leader denies charges

By Lamis K. Andoni
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

dorsed by the 18th session of the Palestine National Council (PNC) in Algiers last April."

The PNC resolution over relations with Egypt was a result of a compromise among the Palestinian factions. But, as it turned out, while the PFLP insisted that it implied severing contacts with Egypt, Mr. Arafat has repeatedly argued that "it has left the door open for future contacts with Cairo."

Consequently the PFLP political bureau statement accused Mr. Abu Sharif "of taking an individual stand on his own, flagrantly violating the front's policy and principles."

But Mr. Abu Sharif, who served as the PFLP spokesman until 1984, denied the charges and expressed shock and regret at the politburo statement. "I sincerely regret the politburo statement which was based on inaccurate reports."

A statement issued by the PLO in Addis Ababa stated that Mr. Arafat and PLO Executive Committee member Jamal Al Sourani represented the Palestinian side at the one-hour meeting with Mr.

Mubarak.

According to well-informed sources the only time that Mr. Abu Sharif had come close to the Egyptian delegation was at the conference hall when delegation shook hands with each other. "But it was strictly part of the protocol," Mr. Abu Sharif said.

The PFLP's statement, however, insisted that Mr. Abu Sharif was present at the Arafat-Mubarok meeting and said that his step

"was detrimental to the interests of the revolution as well as a departure from the resolutions of the PNC."

The front's decision baffled Palestinian observers here despite longstanding differences which have emerged over the last four years between Mr. Abu Sharif and the PFLP leadership.

Both journalists and observers who have been following Palestinian developments since 1983 have noticed that Mr. Abu Sharif's personal assessments and stands varied from those of his leadership.

Mr. Abu Sharif was also extremely critical of the Syrian policies towards the PLO leadership.

Sri Lankan forces rush to south; rebels defy peace plan in north

COLOMBO (R) — Sri Lanka on Saturday sent more troops to control continued disturbances by majority Sinhalese in the south while Tamil guerrillas in the north kept up their refusal to surrender their weapons to Indian troops.

A senior government official said leftists were burning buses and fighting security forces in the southern district of Hambantota.

Neighboring districts were now quiet and the crisis would soon be overcome, he said.

"We are pushing a few more reinforcements into Hambantota. The situation should be better in another 36 hours."

(Continued on page 5)

Water pollution in Amman — the story below the surface

stated on anonymity. The Jordan Times constructed the story in the light of its investigation and independent research and came up with the following report:

On June 16, 1987, Mr. Keilani was notified of the presence of impurities in water pumped from Deir Alla into Amman. Subsequently, WAJ engineers reported that some water from the King Talal Dam, which was proven unsuitable for domestic use, had been channelled into the East Ghor Canal whose water is pumped to Amman after treatment at a water treatment plant at Zai. The King Talal Dam reservoir's water was for long limited to agricultural use. On June 20, after making certain of the validity of those reports, the WAJ president contacted the JVA (whose president was then outside Jordan), and spoke to Mohammad Bani Hani, who at the time was JVA secretary general. Mr. Bani Hani reportedly said he was not aware of any channelling of the King Talal dam water but promised to investigate the issue. On June 23, Mr. Bani Hani called Mr. Keilani to confirm him that some of the polluted water from the King Talal had been channelled into the East Ghor Canal and that Mr. Haddadin had authorised it. A

decision was then taken to stop the dam water reaching the East Ghor Canal and the prime minister was informed of the incident. By then, it had become public knowledge that the Amman area residents had been drinking polluted water. But the extent of the health risk involved was not yet known.

Subsequently, the prime minister summoned a Cabinet meeting on July 1. It was attended by Mr. Keilani, Mr. Haddadin, Minister of Planning Taber Kanaan, Industry and Trade Minister Rajai Muasher, other Cabinet members and former JVA President Omar Abdullah Dakhgan at whose presidency the Deir Alla project was conceived.

During the meeting, Mr. Rifai questioned Mr. Haddadin and Mr. Keilani (who clashed in their assessment of the water situation) and then asked them to resign so as to allow for the establishment of a water and irrigation ministry to unite water resources management in the country. A decision was also taken to immediately cease the pumping of water from the Deir Alla project. The prime minister was told by Mr. Keilani that the decision would cause a water shortage in the Amman area but not exceeding five per cent.

Health hazards

According to several doctors interviewed by the Jordan Times, hundreds of people have been admitted into hospitals and clinics in the Amman area over last month and this month with cases ranging from stomach disturbances to severe diarrhoea. The doctors, who asked not to be identified, said that judging from tests they carried out, many of the cases were a result of consuming polluted water. One physician said that there were cases of parasites in stomach including

balharzia, ascaris and amebiasis, causing acute diarrhoea, dehydration among children, and inflammation of the digestive system from fungi algae. However, the doctors could not confirm a direct link between the water pollution incident and the observed cases. "Let's say the number of people coming to hospital with similar problems over the last few weeks is very unusual," one of the physicians said.

The prime minister then decided to commission water specialists from the British Thames Water Authority to carry out studies on all water resources in the Jordan Valley area over the year's four seasons. Since 1977, several similar studies have been carried out by local and foreign water experts.

According to a water expert, the East Ghor Canal water was also not safe for domestic use. He said it contained bromine, which, when mixed with chlorine used for chlorination by the water treatment plant, produced chlorophorm and bromophorm which are carcinogenic chemicals capable of causing cancer. He said as many as five per 2000 people could develop cancer within their lifetime from drinking water polluted with the level detected in the East Ghor Canal. Residents of the Amman area have been drinking water from the canal since November last year.

The expert said the number of people hurt depended on the shape of the treatment plant, which is believed to have been severely damaged by algae in the water from the King Talal Dam.

The ministry earlier sought to dispel citizens' fears that they had been drinking poisonous water. There had been an almost total blackout on the water pollution affair since it broke out last month. No precautionary measures have been advised by the ministry nor by WAJ. Instead, there were assurances that odour, taste and colour present in the water were not harmful.

Dr. Haddadin, who refused to be interviewed by the Jordan Times, was quoted by officials that the whole affair "had been blown out of proportion due to the incompetence of people involved in the assessment of the problem."

He was quoted as saying that "all what happened was a relaxation in the treatment of the water" which allowed algae and other material to appear in domestic drinking water producing odor, taste and colour.

"They have exaggerated the matter," he reportedly said.

(Continued on page 5)

TOMORROW... TOMORROW
THE GRAND OPENING

FISH AND CHIPS

Fish
The famous English meal will soon be served in Jordan for the first time.
Mecca Street... The commercial compound

Swedish police arrest Karami murder suspect

STOCKHOLM (R) — A 25-year-old Lebanese citizen was arrested early Saturday in a Swedish refugee camp on suspicion of murdering Lebanon's Prime Minister Rashid Karami, police said Saturday.

A duty spokesman for police in the central Swedish town of Motala said the man was arrested and taken immediately to Stockholm for questioning by security police.

"The arrest was very undramatic," the police spokesman told Reuters.

Mr. Karami was murdered last June 1 when a bomb exploded in the helicopter in which he was travelling between Tripoli and Beirut. The bomb had been placed under Mr. Karami's seat.

The police spokesman said the man, who came to Sweden via Cyprus and sought political asylum about a month ago, was asleep when six police officers arrived at the Bonnaso Refugee Camp to arrest him.

"We were able to put handcuffs on him and take him away without any problems," he added.

Swedish radio quoted unofficial police sources as saying the arrested man, a Maronite Christian, worked as a flight mechanic at the Adma Air Force Base in the Christian enclave north east of Beirut, where Mr. Karami's helicopter was based. The radio did not disclose the man's name.

Two men face possible death sentences.

Security sources in Lebanon this week said a Lebanese army team would travel to Sweden to seek Salibi's extradition.

The man detained Saturday was living in the refugee camp, just north of the town of Motala.

Political asylum applications from about 200 refugees in the camp are currently being considered by Swedish authorities. Refugees can live in centres for several months before applications are cleared.

A large number of the refugees at the camp were Lebanese, Motala police told Reuters.

From there, he joined the constant stream of Lebanese refugees who seek political asylum

in Sweden, the radio quoted the police sources as saying.

Lebanese authorities this week issued an arrest warrant for a Christian Lebanese army soldier, private Elie Louis Salibi, and charged him with Mr. Karami's premeditated murder.

Authorities have already arrested and charged Sergeant Ibrahim Dagher, another Christian army technician at Adma, with facilitating Mr. Karami's murder and violating state security.

We have not yet received any request for this man to be deported," she told Reuters.

Swedish radio quoted unoffical police sources as saying the arrested man, a Maronite Christian, worked as a flight mechanic at the Adma Air Force Base in the Christian enclave north east of Beirut, where Mr. Karami's helicopter was based. The radio did not disclose the man's name.

A few days after the assassination, the man disappeared from the Adma Base, although it had been sealed off by security forces, and fled to Cyprus.

The hijacker, identified as Hussein Ali Mohammad Hariri, killed a Frenchman and the callers said the group would strike Swiss interests if he was extradited to France.

Mr. Regan said Thursday Mr. Reagan was initially cautious about becoming involved in Israeli shipments to Iran in August and September 1985 and felt under pressure from Israel.

Told of Mr. Regan's comment that no laws have been broken, Senate committee Chairman

Shultz believed U.S. was 'suckered' by Israel

WASHINGTON (R) — Secretary of State George Shultz said the United States was "suckered" by Israel into selling arms to Iran, according to notes by former White House Chief of Staff Donald Regan.

"(Shultz) thinks Israeli suckered us into this so we can't complain of their sales," said Mr. Regan's notes of a Nov. 10 White House meeting attended by President Reagan and his top advisers.

The notes were released by the Senate and House of Representatives committees probing the Iran-contra scandal and Mr. Regan confirmed at televised hearings Friday that those were his impressions of what Mr. Shultz had said.

"His point was that since the Israelis were so close to us in this deal, and they were already shipping arms to Iran, we could not consistently agree in private with them to be a participant in that and then publicly condemn any arms shipments they might be sending to Iran," Mr. Regan said.

"I don't think it's a top secret that the Israelis seem ... to favour Iran over Iraq in that current conflict," he said, referring to the seven-year-old Iran-Iraq war.

During the 1985-86 sales of U.S. anti-tank and anti-aircraft missiles and parts to Iran, initially via Israel, the administration was lobbying its allies not to arm Iran, which Washington had designated a terrorist state.

Mr. Regan said Thursday Mr. Reagan was initially cautious about becoming involved in Israeli shipments to Iran in August and September 1985 and felt under pressure from Israel.

But by December 1985, the president signed an authorization for Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) involvement in a shipment of Hawk anti-aircraft missiles to Iran.

Several witnesses have testified that it was Mr. Reagan's hope of winning freedom for U.S. hostages held by pro-Iranian militants in Lebanon that kept the deal going — despite repeated failures.

Mr. Regan Friday described the five hostages then held by pro-Iranian groups in Lebanon as bait used by Iran to secure American weapons.

Meanwhile, the newspaper of the Iranian-backed Shi'ite Muslim Hezbollah faction Friday accused French Ambassador Paul Blanc of running "a nest of spies" at his embassy in Beirut.

The charge came in an article published by Al Ahdh weekly criticizing Mr. Blanc for describing recent anti-France demonstrations staged by Hezbollah in Beirut and east Lebanon as "unpleasant and disagreeable."

The possibly illegal diversion turned the Iran arms sale affair into a full-blown scandal when it was discovered on Nov. 25.

Clovis Maksoud, who is also

key White House aide Oliver North testified to the congressional hearings that the idea to divert millions of dollars in Iran arms sales profits to the "contra" rebels in Nicaragua came from Manucher Ghorbanifar, an Iranian businessman suspected by the CIA of being an Israeli spy, and may have originated with the Israeli government.

The possibly illegal diversion turned the Iran arms sale affair into a full-blown scandal when it was discovered on Nov. 25.

Weinberger: Reagan was told Iran losing the war

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Ronald Reagan was told Iran was losing its war with Iraq when he was deciding whether to sell weapons to Tehran, according to congressional testimony.

The information was directly at odds with the conclusions of the government's professional intelligence analysts.

"It is very disturbing that the president of the United States would be given such erroneous information," Republican Senator Warren Rudman said after Friday's congressional Iran-contra hearing.

Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger testified Friday that an intelligence estimate used to support the policy change that included the arms sales was contrary to all the other intelligence I had seen... None of it rang true.

Weinberger returns Monday to complete his testimony as the final public witness before the investigating committee. CIA witnesses will follow in closed hearings, and the sessions are scheduled to end Thursday after 12 weeks.

His testimony fit into a pattern of indications that intelligence information reaching Mr. Reagan had been fashioned to suit certain policy goals. A week ago, the committee heard testimony that the late CIA Director William Casey had suppressed a report indicating Iran continued to use terrorism as a weapon, which would have been at odds with the arms sale policy.

Mr. Regan, during a photo session Friday at the White House, said he has not "heard a single word that indicated, in any of the testimony, that laws were broken."

He also promised to speak out on the subject of the Iran-contra affair after the hearings end. But White House spokesman Marlin Fitzwater later said that no news conference is planned until sometime this fall.

Told of Mr. Regan's comment that no laws have been broken, Senate committee Chairman

Daniel Inouye, an opposition Democrat, responded: "I would suggest that the president of the United States confer with his attorney general and look over the transcript of the hearings."

Mr. Weinberger said the intelligence report came to him in the summer of 1985 as the arms sale idea was being formulated. It contended, among other things, that Iran at that time was the underdog in its long and bitter war with Iraq.

That conclusion was at odds with the daily briefings that Mr. Weinberger had received from the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), he said, as well as data from the Pentagon's own intelligence service.

Later, the same apparently erroneous assessment was passed to the president as part of a briefing before he gave the go-ahead for the arms sales on Jan. 17, 1986. A document accompanying Mr. Regan's decision paper refers to Israeli worries about "Iran's deteriorating position in the war with Iraq."

And in personal notes of former White House Chief of Staff Donald Regan, taken at a Oval Office meeting last Nov. 10, the president is recorded as saying of the arms sales, "side with military superiority will win. We want to have things even. This helps Iran which was

weakened."

Mr. Weinberger said Mr. Regan's belief was further evidence that he had been misled by "people with their own agenda, who thought this opening (to Iran) was a good thing and did not want the president to hear these arguments."

"They were doing everything they could to put this agenda into effect," including shielding the president from dissenting views, he added.

Previous testimony has shown the policy change was sought primarily by former National Security Adviser Robert McFarlane and Adm. John Poindexter, their former aide, Lt.-Col. Oliver North and Mr. Casey.

Mr. Weinberger's comment came in answer to questions from Representative Les Aspin, chairman of the House Armed Services Committee. Mr. Aspin is a leading critic of the plan to put U.S. captains and flags aboard 11 Kuwaiti tankers and protect them with navy warships as the tankers travel the Gulf.

The plan has raised fears that since Kuwait has aided Iraq, the United States will be drawn into the long Iran-Iraq war. Iran has threatened to attack the tankers and U.S. officials believe Iran is responsible for planting a mine that the Bridgeton, the first tanker to be reflagged, hit last week.

on its first trip up the Gulf. U.S. officials, including Rear Adm. Harold Bremser, commander of the MidEast force, say the sale of U.S. arms to Iran has hurt American prestige among Arab nations, which have backed Iraq in the war. That damage has been particularly great among Kuwait and the other Gulf Arab states, the officials say.

Mr. Aspin asked Mr. Weinberger if U.S. knowledge of Kuwaiti unhappiness with the arms sales led to the American decision to protect the Kuwaiti ships.

"Well, I'm absolutely convinced that there was no connection because there was no connection made," Mr. Weinberger answered, "and you'll forgive me for saying that I think that even the attempt to establish a connection is fairly tenuous because I don't see anything that would have been either accomplished or how it would be tied together."

In explaining the Iranian arms sale to Arab states, Mr. Weinberger said: "We made it very clear that it was a one-time aberration and that we were not going to do it again. But that had nothing to do with the need of their ships for protection from Iranian attack."

Mr. Weinberger's testimony differed in one respect from the report he sent Congress in June detailing the history of the Kuwaiti reflagging plan.

That report said the Kuwaiti request was first made to the United States last December, shortly after the Iran arms sale was publicly disclosed.

But Mr. Weinberger said Friday that "my understanding of the current situation is that the Kuwaiti government came to us first, came to us somewhere in January, asked if we would protect their own ships carrying oil out of the Gulf from attack."

Reagan administration officials, in defending the decision to protect the Kuwaiti tankers, have argued that if the United States doesn't do the job, the Soviet Union will.

U.S. slams idea of expelling Palestinians from West Bank

Palestinian problem based on Security Council Resolution 242, State Department spokesman Charles Redman told reporters.

Deputy Defence Minister Michael Dekel, a member of the right wing Herut Party, provoked an outcry in the coalition Israeli government by proposing the 1.4 million Palestinians on the West Bank be expelled to an Arab country.

"We believe that Iran, Iraq and Syria are seeking these eight chemicals from Western countries for use in their chemical weapons programme," State Department spokesman Charles Redman said.

He said the controls were imposed "as part of our policy which opposes the illegal use of chemical weapons in contravention of international law."

"These regulations will restrict access by Iran, Iraq and Syria to U.S.-origin chemicals for use in chemical warfare, while publicly conveying U.S. opposition to the use of chemical weapons," the Commerce Department said in an official notice imposing export controls on the chemicals.

Washington has denounced the alleged use of chemical weapons in the Gulf war.

U.S.

bans chemical exports

to Iran, Iraq and Syria

Mr. Redman said that in addition to the curbs on the eight chemicals, four other chemicals previously subject to export controls to the three countries, would now require an export licence for anywhere except Canada.

This action has been taken in line with the actions of other Western industrialized countries," Mr. Redman said.

He said the action was aimed at reducing the supply of commercial chemicals being bought by the three countries and ensuring U.S. chemicals would not be used in making weapons.

Although some of the chemicals appear to be useful only in the manufacture of chemical weapons, others are also used in a variety of products and industrial processes, according to several chemists consulted by Reuters.

These include pesticides, lubricants, plastics, flame retardants, textiles and chemical solvents, the chemists said.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

EMERGENCIES

Ministry of Tourism 642311
Hotel complaints 666412
Price complaints 66176
Civil Defense 271293, 271251
Civil Defense Headquarters 770733
Civil Defense Deir Alz 57306
Ambulance 193, 775111
Kuwait downtown fire brigade 196
First aid 630241
Blood Bank 778303
Civil Defense rescue 661111
Fire headquarters 622090-3
Police rescue 192, 621111, 621111-1
Police headquarters 630141
Traffic police 8063701
Electric Power Co. 656381/4, 654851
Municipal water complaints 7711298
Queen Alia Int'l. Airport 089533200-0

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN: Dr. Abdul Rahman Najjar 775050
Dr. Mohammed Jaber 896491
Dr. Khalid M'addi 743591
Dr. Ammar Aqrabawi 630426
Admiral pharmacy 644915
Yacoub pharmacy 621170
Mequadi pharmacy 725902

TAXIS: Ahrax taxi 663911
Venetia taxi 644585
Palestine taxi 671473
Sheikha taxi 6672270
Mehyar taxi 631574
Khayr taxi 6411206
Jordan taxi 623050
Asem taxi 844503

IRBID: Dr. Shchedi Al Zagh 244000
Al Hassan pharmacy 243916
Al Sharaf's pharmacy (—)

GENERAL

Jordan Television 773111/19
Radio Jordan 774111/19

MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in fils per kg.

Banana 250 / 200
Cham (dry) 130 / 100
Orange 280 / 240
Okra 300 / 250
Peaches 900 / 700
Pepper (hot) 160 / 120
Cucumbers 180 / 140
Eggplant (large) 80 / 50
Carrot 250 / 200
Onion 150 / 120
Garlic 800 / 700
Raddish 120 / 90
Squash 250 / 200
Grapes 250 / 200
Lemon (yellow) 600 / 500
Mallow 60 / 40
Watermelon 60 / 60

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

Slight drop in temperature is expected, with north-westerly moderate to fresh winds. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and calm sea.

Min./Max. temp.

Aqaba 20 / 32

Larnaca 21 / 38

Deserts 20 / 36

Cairo (R) 25 / 31

Jordan Valley 60 / 40

Temperature 160 / 100

Wind 200 / 150

Clouds 250 / 200

Humidity 130 / 100

NEWS IN BRIEF

Prime minister visits Public Security Dept.

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Zaid Rifai visited the Public Security Department (PSD) on Saturday and met with its director Abdil Hadi Al Majali. Mr. Rifai was briefed on a programme for modernising the PSD system and improving efficiency. The prime minister was accompanied on the visit by Deputy Prime Minister Abdul Wahhab Al Majali, Minister of Finance Hanan Odeh, Minister of Interior Rajai Dajani and Minister of Planning Taher Kanaan.

Court sentences two for hashish crimes

AMMAN (Petra) — The Military Court has sentenced Ghassan Ghazi Abdul Salim Rabah to a one-and-a-half-year prison term for smuggling hashish. The court also sentenced Ali Khalaf Ali Al Erifi to three years imprisonment with hard labour and fined him JD 350 for trafficking hashish. The general military governor endorsed the sentences.

Meeting of students studying abroad ends

AMMAN (Petra) — The first gathering for Jordanian students studying abroad concluded here Saturday. The week-long programme included visits to a number of historical and tourist sites as well as development projects in the country. The students also met with a number of officials especially with Jordanian university presidents. The event was organised by the Ministry of Youth.

Arab Cities' committee concludes meeting

TUNIS (Petra) — The Arab Cities Organisation's Foreign Relations Committee concluded its three-day meeting here Friday. Greater Amman Mayor Abdul Ra'ouf Al Rawabdeh, who headed Jordan's delegation to the meetings, said the committee decided to hold their next meeting in Amman. Participants also agreed on holding a conference for over 100 mayors of European and Arab cities in Marakesh, Morocco next year to promote cooperation and understanding among the peoples of these cities. Mr. Rawabdeh added that the committee reviewed the organisation's working programme and its cooperation with regional and international organisations.

Mafraq villages receive electricity

MAFRAC (Petra) — Two villages in the Mafraq region, Al Za'faraneh and Hamamat Al Uleimat, were supplied with electric power Saturday by the Irbid District Electricity Company (IDEC). Company sources said the cost of the project, JD 58,000, covered a cableless transformer station and pylons. Present at the ceremony were the Mafraq governor and senior local officials. According to the sources, the IDEC is now working on the electrification of five more villages in the governorate of Mafraq at the cost of JD 250,000 and electricity will be supplied during the coming year.

Fall into water tower kills little girl

IRBID (J.T.) — A little girl died Friday when she fell in a water tower at the refugee camp in Irbid region, according to the Arabic daily *Al Ra'i*. The paper gave the name of the girl as a Marian Abu Sahiou. The paper also reported that three people were injured by stray bullets fired during weddings in Irbid and Hama.

On the final Jerash days, satire rules the stage

By Samia Atiyeh
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — During the last four days of the Jerash Festival, thousands of people filled the South Theatre to see Dureid Lahham's latest play "Shaq'aek Al Nu'man," (red anemones) which was presented here for the first time.

Anxious to see the Syrian play, the spectators' attention was perked up when the performance kicked off with colourful and short folklore songs and dances from all over the Arab world.

The story began, or rather, the story continued: the story of the Arab situation after October 1973. Nimer, played by Lahham is a martyr who was supposed to have been killed in the last Arab-Israeli war and returns to his village. He had been taken prisoner and later escaped, only to return to his village and find that his brother had been corrupted by becoming rich off his martyrdom.

Nimer searches for his wife Zahra, who had been thrown out of her husband's small home by her crooked brother-in-law. After a small journey, where he finds Israeli planes flying overhead and Arab armed men in the streets harassing him, he finds Zahra in the graveyard. She tells him life has been difficult and that people worry about whether there is food to eat. When Nimer asks her about the Arab cause, she tells him to forget about it.

The absurd story continues, with characters coming in and out, arguing about what they should do about their oppressed lives. Many, including Nimer, decide to migrate. As Nimer is preparing of fly off in a balloon, Ishaq, a writer wearing a chef's hat and sleeveless shirt, tries to convince Nimer to stay and fight rather than help imperialism by leaving. The conversations that take place between Ishaq, Nimer and Zahra are humorously yet sadly intense.

There is a scene where Ishaq, the intellectual, is explaining Arab history to Nimer. As the writer explains that Arabs at one time were great and powerful, a girl with an Andalusian costume runs on stage, flirtatiously screaming, "help, help" in classical Arabic. She is followed by the emperor and his guards. A man comes in and tells the Emperor the people are upset because they are oppressed and have no freedom. At first, the leader embraces the man. But since he wants to hear good and beautiful things, he calls his executioner to behead the man. The Emperor calls on another poet who starts saying the people are happy and recites beautiful, yet



Performers accompanying Dureid Lahham act out a scene from the play "Shaq'aek Al Nu'man" at the South Theatre during the final days of the 1987 Jerash Festival (Photo by Yousef Al 'Allan).

false poetry. The latter man's words are therefore recorded in history. When the past (the Emperor) in the "garbage of history," as Ishaq puts it, leaves the stage, and the Emperor continues to chase the harem for self-satisfaction, Nimer says, "nothing has changed for hundreds of years."

Zahra is annoyed with Ishaq's intellectual optimism because of what history says, and she screams that if the people stay as they are, unmoving and unchanging, the situation will get worse. "People will sell their children in order to eat," she exclaims. This is followed by another absurd scene where a man is auctioning off his daughters (in dollars), and someone with a baby in a cage also being auctioned off.

The play ends with Nimer shouting at Zahra and Ishaq for arguing, saying that they will not get anywhere if they don't agree.

The final words came out from Mr. Lahham's gut as he pleaded for Arab human dignity and unity. Nimer says he wants to write the history of the future. When Ishaq tells Nimer he can not write, Nimer says he will write it with his feet. The entire cast start to stamp their feet, ending the play.

The script, written by Mohammad Maghout, is intense and very modern. The intensity lies in the conflict of opinions between the intellectual man and the simple man who wants to live in dignity. Concerning modern events, flashes of Chernobyl, South Lebanon resistance through suicide missions, and almost eating human flesh in the last camps war in Lebanon are all mentioned. Even in the Emperor scene, Nimer tells the king he should be careful of AIDS since the Emperor has possession of all



Message from Oman: His Majesty King Hussein receives the Omani Minister of Trade and Industry, Salem Ibn Abdulla Al Ghazali Saturday. The Omani minister delivered a message from Sultan Qaboos Ibn Sa'id dealing with bilateral economic relations within the framework of continuing consultations between the two leaders. The Omani minister later left Amman after a one-day visit (Petra photo).

Medical mission leaves for Sudan

AMMAN (Petra) — Another Jordanian medical mission left Amman Saturday for Sudan to offer assistance to the African country's victims of drought and famine.

Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh, deputising for His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, saw the mission off, and wished members success in their task. Dr. Hamzeh said the mission is comprised of 10 doctors, seven male

nurses and technicians and a female nurse. Earlier missions of Sudan included only male nurses.

In addition to doctors and nurses, the mission contains team for combating malaria and providing primary health care.

According to Dr. Hamzeh, the team is carrying large amounts of medicine and medical supplies in addition to a collection of books for a library established by a Jordanian mission at the city of

Administrative development seminar to open August 16

AMMAN (Petra) — A seminar on administrative development in Jordan will open in Amman August 16 under the patronage of Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, according to an announcement made Friday.

The announcement was made by Mr. Abdullah Ulayyan, director of the Institute of Public Administration (IPA) which normally organises symposiums and training courses for government employees.

Mr. Ulayyan said under secretaries of various ministries, directors of government departments and those responsible for the

development of human resources and promoting public administration work will attend the four-day seminar.

Participants in the seminar, which is organised by IPA will study administrative systems of various departments in light of a study prepared by the IPA to define job descriptions of those assuming positions in public administration and the skills required from them in handling their duty, Mr. Ulayyan noted.

The participants will discuss the concept of administrative development and the role of higher administration.

Jordan to participate in Israeli-boycott conference

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan will take part in the 57th meeting of the Arab Office for the Boycott of Israel due to be open in Damascus in mid-August.

The participants, all directors of regional offices, will discuss boycotting Israeli goods.

The status of foreign countries on a blacklist will be reviewed, if they have ended financial dealings with Israel. The office will add firms to the blacklist if they have begun doing business in Israel.

The Arab office will examine the European-Israeli joint chamber of commerce and determine the Arab World's position.

Teams begin issuing voter cards

AMMAN (Petra) — Committees set up by the Ministry of Interior to issue voter cards to the public began their task Saturday in provinces throughout the Kingdom.

Ministry of Interior Under Secretary Ahmad Aqila said no one will be allowed to vote in general by-elections without the card, which supplies information about the identity of voters and their constituencies.

Eligible voters must complete a form and supply the committee in their constituency with two photographs in order to obtain a voter card, but should also produce their family civil registration book to prove identity. Mr. Aqila said.

The new law allows 19-year-olds to vote in elections. The previous law set the age limit at 20.

Mr. Aqila said committees appointed by the ministry to revise voter lists will continue their work until Aug. 15.

Applications must be made by persons for whom the cards will be issued or by a member of the family who can apply for the rest of the eligible members of the family.

The committees will supply application forms to voters and issue cards for three months, which is enough time to complete the procedure. Mr. Aqila said.

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Vindictive campaign must end

AUSTRIAN President Kurt Waldheim's arrival in Jordan yesterday will no doubt grab world headlines, especially in the Western media. Why? Certainly not because the head of a European state is paying a friendly visit to a friendly Arab country in a bid to strengthen bilateral relations and exchange views, important as they are, on world problems. But, because our visitor is a statesman who has been subjected to a fierce campaign of slander, character assassination and misrepresentation. Those who have instigated the campaign against Dr. Waldheim know exactly what they are doing. It is the duty of the rest of us to find out just what the aims of these people are, or at least not to be misled by them.

If the so-called controversy surrounding Dr. Waldheim is not clear to the world, it is because his foes have the means at their disposal and are so professional at obfuscating issues and manipulating world public opinion to their best advantage.

Take, for example, that statement which an unnamed Israeli official issued yesterday. "Any country which welcomes (Dr. Waldheim) now — as long as (his) case is not clarified — is not taking the right step," the official was quoted as saying by an international news agency which went on to describe this Israeli reaction to the Austrian president's visit here as "muted." Well the reaction is indeed "muted" if you compare it to what Israeli leaders had to say about Dr. Waldheim's visit to the Vatican last week. But, since when does Israel, especially under a government headed by a terrorist turned leader, has the right to set standards for international norms and behaviour?

And then, even after disregarding all the unfair and hostile criticism levelled against the Pope for receiving Dr. Waldheim, since when do Israel and affiliated Jewish groups and other backers have the right to tell others what to do, particularly the victims of Israeli aggression and state terrorism?

Rather than exhort us on what to do and whom not to receive, the Israelis should take a hard look at what they themselves have done to the people of Palestine and what they continue to do to this very day. In the same vein, those Jewish organisations and their backers, who in the name of fighting Nazism and anti-Semitism are compromising and endangering the future of Jews throughout the world, should look again at what they are doing to see whether their cause is served at all by their tactics.

It might not be very difficult for the powerful Zionists to target a single person and a small state, like Dr. Waldheim and Austria, for political and media attacks with claims of a Nazi and anti-Semitic past. But, campaigns as that waged against people and states which have a proven record of working for world peace and prosperity, with justice for all, can all too easily backfire and inflict great harm on all.

They are picking on the wrong person, President Waldheim himself would say. But then, are they not overdoing it, and causing themselves and many others enormous damage as well?

Once again Dr. Waldheim, Mrs. Waldheim, Foreign Minister Mock, and the accompanying delegation, you are most welcome in Jordan. We wish them a successful visit and a happy stay amongst friends.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Welcoming Dr. Waldheim

DEAR Dr. Waldheim, we warmly welcome you to Jordan and wish that every one of us can shake your hand to show our sincerest affection to you. You are most worthy of honouring, and the words that we say cannot express our gratitude to you but we are proud of your visit to our capital and take pride in offering you Arab hospitality. We have lived with you through the battle that had been imposed on you and your people by the enemies of human values and principles; and we rejoiced over your victory and the triumph of Austrian democracy. We share with you and your people the belief in rejecting all forms of domination and tutelage and in supporting just struggle for freedom and democracy. We appreciate your support for the just causes of the Arab people and their struggle against injustice and against occupation and their endeavours to achieve stability and peace. We welcome you in our country and stand by you in fending off all conspiracies and; and all attempts directed against freedom and justice. By welcoming you in Amman we also welcome the great Austrian people and a brave nation that stood fast in the face of the enemies of democracy and freedom.

Al Dustour: Standing with Iraq

KING Hussein visited Baghdad on Tuesday to discuss with President Saddam Hussein the latest developments in the Gulf conflict and also to review current Arab affairs. The on-going war with Iran is of prime concern to Jordan and to Iraq and it is natural for the leaderships of both countries to coordinate their positions and to maintain consultations on issues of common concern. But though Iraq has been engaged in the war for more than six years, its leadership has given attention also to Arab affairs; and Iraq has been coordinating its position with that of the rest of the Arab Nation with the purpose of serving all Arab causes. Iraq's brave steadfastness in the face of Iranian aggression and its calls for a just and honourable peace, have helped maintain mediation efforts by various regional and international organisations to end the conflict. Iraq's honourable stands and its defence of Arab soil have also paved the way for endeavours for ending differences among Arab states and for initiating a joint Arab stand. We share with the Iraqi people their pride in their armed forces, and back all their efforts to abort the Iranian enemy's plans for expansion and domination.

Sawt Al Shaaib: In solidarity with Iraq

KING Hussein's visit to Baghdad and his meeting with President Saddam Hussein are part of his continued efforts seeking the re-establishment of solidarity among Arab countries and promoting Jordanian-Iraqi cooperation. Jordan, under King Hussein continues to be a staunch supporter of Iraq and the Iraqi people in the face of aggression and in their relentless efforts to defend Arab soil. Jordan under King Hussein continues its efforts for mobilising Arab forces and pooling Arab resources for ending the Gulf conflict. For this reason, Jordan's efforts have been deeply appreciated by all Arab and foreign states. It is our belief that a firm Arab stand and joint Arab action can stop the Gulf conflict, and can pave the way for establishing good neighbourly relations between Iraq and the Arab Nation. The whole world supports Jordan's views and endeavours for ending this war and the whole Arab Nation is for solidarity which Jordan continues to seek at all levels and through King Hussein's combined meetings with Arab leaders. The Arab Nation which has been plagued with divisions and conflicts for long years look forward to solutions and to peace and stability.

Waldheim's visit symbolises strong Austro-Jordanian ties

By Ali Ghadour

DR. KURT WALDHEIM is welcome in Jordan, both personally and as the head of state of a friendly country. He has been here before as secretary-general of the United Nations, but this is the first time that he visits Jordan as president of the Republic of Austria. Jordan has always enjoyed excellent relations with Austria and Dr. Waldheim's state visit will certainly cement these relations.

From the ashes of World War II and the four-power occupation of Vienna which is reminiscent of Berlin today, Austria has risen to great heights and enjoys an enviable standing, respect and admiration within the comity of nations throughout the world. Austria has resisted being the object of inter-powerful rivalry and maintains at high cost its well-cherished neutrality in spite of its compromising geographic location. The indomitable spirit of the Austrian people has not been conquered and Austria has become a haven for political refugees. Austria has never been found wanting to play a role in the international arena on behalf of worthy and human causes, and the efforts of its leaders, notwithstanding their religious denominations, to advance the peace process in the Middle East are already on record.

It is a great shame that the person of the freely-elected president of the Austrian Republic, who served the U.N. well for ten years, is being attacked vehemently and relentlessly by the World Jewish

Congress because of a dubious historical record which does not stand up to scrutiny, let alone vindication. The vendetta that is being carried out against Dr. Kurt Waldheim by both Israel and the Jewish organisations amounts to a faux pas which does not do any good to anyone. It is tantamount to unwanted interference in the internal affairs of sovereign states, and the exertions that are being made are without parallel in the annals of diplomacy. It is indeed ironic that while a putative incident, over forty years old, is being resurrected, a blind eye is being turned to events that are taking place in the West Bank today. The attack on June 6 by at least 50 Israelis armed with guns and clubs on the sleeping refugee camp of Deheisha, near Hebron, has led the Economist of June 13 to conclude that "fears of a pogrom are beginning to rise." It is well for Israelis and Jews alike to leave Dr. Waldheim alone and to address the issues nearer home. Since charity begins at home, Israel should seek — and apply — justice in the occupied territories rather than dissipate its efforts in a futile and unrewarding exercise.

Jordan takes pride in not having succumbed to the chorus of condemnation which is being orchestrated against Dr. Waldheim. The Austrian president comes to Jordan as a proud man and will receive all the honours due to his person and to the great country which he represents.

Austria does not have to be dragged into the limelight against its own will. It is the model of a European democracy to which everyone looks up. Its rich heritage as well as its sense of commitment destined Austria to play an active role in international affairs. The charm of the Austrians pierces barriers, that need not exist, between the various races of the world.

We in Jordan, through the generosity of our Austrian friends, have forged the closest air links between Amman and Vienna and are proud of our accomplishments today. We have in our own modest way helped Vienna become the international hub it is today and to become truly a gateway between East and West.

We, the Austrians and the Jordanians, have so much to offer each other, particularly that we share common goals and ideals. As we go along our own individual ways, we strive — and struggle — for peace with prosperity for ourselves and the rest of the world. We believe that the present visit to Jordan of the Austrian head of state will fortify our sense of pursuit and endeavour.

We welcome Dr. Kurt Waldheim to our clime and wish him well in the years ahead.

The writer is chairman of the board and chief executive officer, Royal Jordanian. He contributed this article to the Jordan Times.

Waldheim begins visit to Jordan

(Continued from page 1)

who is accompanying Dr. Waldheim, the Al Kawab Medal or the First Order.

The Austrian leader, his wife and the accompanying delegation were greeted by a grand welcome ceremony attended by royal family members and senior government officials.

As the Austrian president stepped out of the plane in his dark blue suit, he was greeted by a 21-gun salute. The King then accompanied his guest to review a guard of honour after a military band played the national anthems of Austria and Jordan and four fighter jets screamed low overhead.

Receiving the Austrian leader and the delegation accompanying him, which included 30 journal-

ists, were also His Royal Highness Prince Abdullah, His Highness Prince Talal Ibn Mohammad, Their Highnesses Princess Aisha and Princess Zein, Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, Foreign Minister Taher Al Masi, Royal Court Chief Marwan Qasem, Court Minister Adnan Abu Odeh, Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief Field Marshal Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker, Chief Chamberlain His Highness Prince Ra'd Ibn Zaid, Cabinet members and representatives of Arab and foreign diplomatic missions accredited to Jordan. Most were accompanied by their wives.

Following the ceremony, the King and Dr. Waldheim proceeded to the Al Nadwa Palace in a motorcade that went through streets decorated by Austrian and Jordanian flags and banners welcoming the Austrian president.

The visit to Jordan by Dr. Waldheim and his wife comes at the invitation of the King who was the first leader to visit Dr. Waldheim in Vienna after his election last year. The Austrian leader's visit here follows a meeting with Pope John Paul last week which broke his year-long self-imposed moratorium on visits abroad.

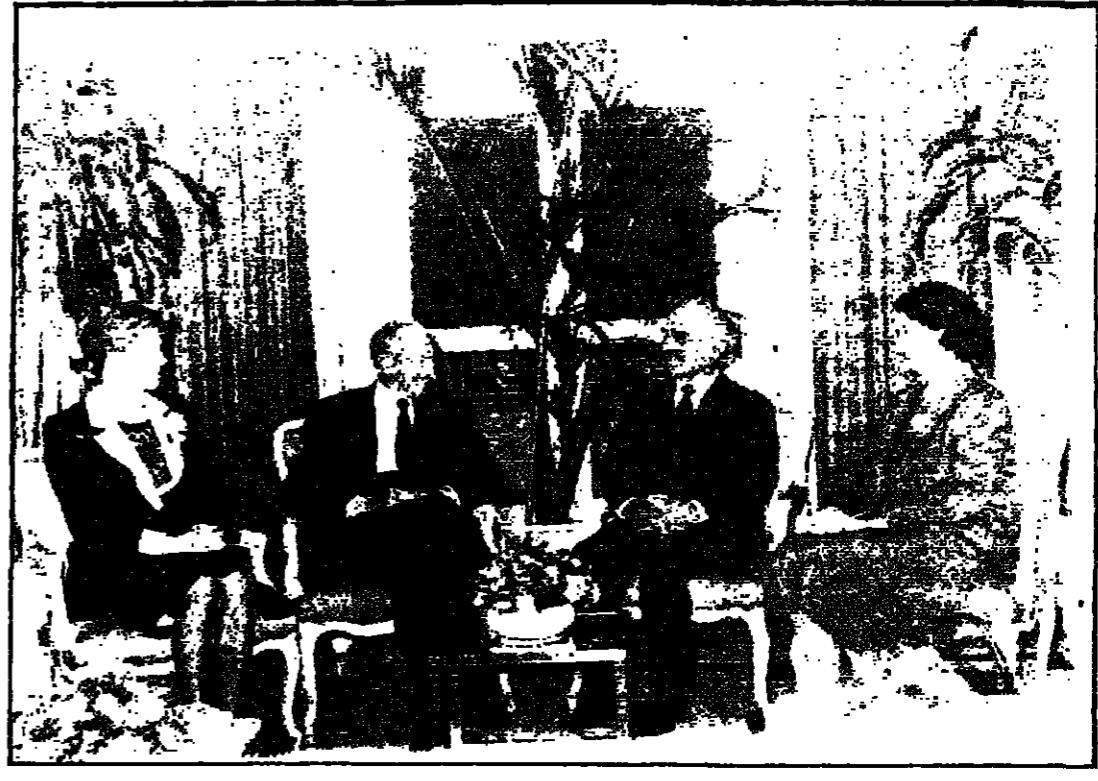
Dr. Waldheim is regarded here highly for his even-handed approach to the Arab-Israeli conflict during his two terms as United Nations secretary-general from 1972 to 1982.

Dr. Waldheim was due to have two rounds of talks with the King. He will also tour the ancient cities of Jerash and Petra and visit the Arab Potash Company built by Austria's Voest Alpine.

During his tenure as U.N. secretary general, important resolutions were adopted by the world body in support of Palestinian rights and in condemnation of the continuing Israeli occupation of Arab territories.

Dr. Waldheim visited Jordan as U.N. chief in 1979 as part of his efforts towards reaching a peaceful settlement to the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Austria supports Jordan's call for the convening of an international peace conference on the Middle East with the participation of the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council



Their Majesties King Hussein and Queen Noor with Austrian President Kurt Waldheim and his wife

here Wednesday (Photo by Yousif Al-Allan)

and all parties to the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Dr. Waldheim's visit to Jordan comes at a time when allegations have been rekindled that the Austrian leader hid a Nazi past involving war crimes during World War II when he served in

the German army in the Balkans.

In April this year, the U.S. put Dr. Waldheim on a "watchlist" of undesirable aliens but could not produce any evidence to support the allegations.

In an interview with the Jordan Times on the eve of his visit to Jordan, Dr. Waldheim described

the U.S. "watchlist" as violating international law and underlined the fact that the American Justice Department had not been able to substantiate or justify its action.

"None of these allegations against me is true," he said. "They are fabrications, distortions and misrepresentations."

Murphy: Main U.S. objective is end to Gulf war

(Continued from page 1)

preventing the "Soviet Union from establishing a dominant position in the Gulf."

Mr. Murphy was careful on Wednesday to repeat that although the superpower rivalry was an important element in shaping American policy in the Gulf the main goal remained that of achieving peace.

"Keeping the Soviet rivalry aside we have an interest in helping our friends (in the Gulf) to defend themselves... and to achieve peace," he said.

Mr. Murphy outlined the following objectives of American policy in the Gulf:

- To curtail Soviet influence;
- To help moderate Gulf states to protect and defend themselves;
- To guarantee the free flow of oil from the Gulf; and

- To put an end to the Iran-Iraq war through a peaceful settlement which should be based on guaranteeing the sovereignty of both countries.

The American official reiterated that the American administration was determined to go ahead with its plan to reflag the Kuwaiti tankers despite opposition by Congress.

"The President is determined to proceed with the reflagging," he said. "We are going in mid-July."

Mr. Murphy noted that although the American decision to accept the Kuwaiti request to protect its tankers by offering the U.S. flag which automatically entitles them to U.S. naval protection was not aimed "at provoking Tehran."

"These measures would act as deterrent factors and are not intended to provoke Iran," he said, "we have no intention to protect belligerent cargoes... and Kuwait is not belligerent."

Mr. Murphy did not rule out the possibility that Tehran might

stage "sabotage" operations against the U.S. and the Gulf states. "Only time will tell what Iran will do against us and you," he said addressing the Gulf journalists.

Although the situation in the Gulf was the main focus of the journalists' questions, the issue of efforts to convene an international conference on the Middle East was raised by two reporters towards the end of Wednesday's press conference. The main concern of the Gulf journalists, as reflected by their questions, was on the progress of peace efforts and on American readiness to pressure Israel to attend the proposed meeting.

In answer to these questions, Mr. Murphy warned that there had not been any "miracle" in the peace process. He said "quiet talks" that had been carried out in the area in the last two years among the various parties had produced "significant progress."

He said that out of the "quiet diplomacy" an understanding had emerged on the main principles of the suggested conference. He cited these principles as the following:

- The conference would be a framework for direct talks among the parties involved in the conflict;
- The conference would have no veto power or authority to impose its will over the parties involved;

Geographic committees will be set up to discuss the different bilateral disputes.

The American official warned that the conference itself could not provide a solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict. Such a solution or a settlement, he said, will only be reached through serious "deliberations" among the parties.

Mr. Murphy reiterated the already declared American position that the U.S. was not going to intervene in favour of the Labour Party in the internal Israeli debate over the international conference.

"We are not going to intervene, but we will continue to argue for peace," he said.

Mr. Murphy, who has been directly involved in negotiations to pave the way for peace talks in the Middle East, said that there had been a growing "positive trend" vis-a-vis the peace process in the area. He said this trend manifested itself in the various parties' growing acceptance of two important elements: the need to redress the legitimate rights of the Palestinians, and the significance of guaranteeing the "security" of Israel.

In Mr. Murphy's answers there was no reference to the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) although he stressed that the "Palestinians" should be represented in all stages of the negotiations within the framework of a Joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation.

According to the American official, the form of the Palestinian representation "has not been resolved yet."

Iraq reports hitting ship

(Continued from page 1)

and drew a parallel with the present war against Iran.

Information Minister Latif Nassif Al Jassim said Iraqi President Hussein, born in the same village of Tikrit as Saladin, was fighting a similar war against an enemy who used the slogan of religion to hide colonialist motives.

Mr. Jassim represented President Hussein at a ceremony in Tikrit, some 150 kilometres north of Baghdad.

In a related development, Iraqi information media said more than 100,000 college students began joining military camps Wednesday for training in combat tactics and warfare skills. The students will be prepared

psychologically and physically to participate in any mission assigned to them," a senior member of the ruling Baath Party told the army daily Al Qadsya.

Sadiq Mahdi Saleh, a member of the regional command of the party, said the students would undergo one month's compulsory training.

Last month, student at secondary schools joined similar training programmes.

Last year Iraq said it had trained tens of thousands of students to fight in an expected Iranian offensive which eventually occurred in January.

Jordan in the 1967 war

By Lamis K Andoni
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Twenty years after the 1967 Arab-Israeli war a new book, recently published in London, reveals that Jordan had to join in the war despite its prior awareness of an almost imminent Arab defeat due to the lack of a military equilibrium between the belligerent sides.

Despite its deep misgivings about what it conceived as "a premature military confrontation with Israel," Jordan, nevertheless, had no alternative but to fight and be "part of the joint Arab action."

This is one of the main arguments of the solidly researched book *Jordan in the 1967 War*, written by Dr. Samir Mutawi, a veteran Jordanian Arab journalist who is currently head of the press section at the Royal Court.

According to the author, who based his conclusions on extensive interviews with the Jordanian decision-makers in that period, Jordan had decided to join in the fighting for four important reasons:

First, the decision was consistent with the Hashemite heritage which embodied a deep commitment towards Arab unity, joint Arab action and the Palestinian cause.

Second, it was partly a reaction to "a long and concerted" campaign by radical Arab governments, particularly Egypt and Syria, who had repeatedly accused Jordan of being "a lackey for the West and of treachery."

Third, the decision was also due to Jordan's conviction that the Israeli leaders were determined to seize any opportunity to occupy the West Bank.

Fourth, the decision was also relevant to the survival of Jordan "as a state" taking into consideration that it was surrounded with hostile governments. For while Israel did not hide its ambitions in the West Bank the other Arab governments were constantly raising doubts about Jordan's commitment to the Palestinian cause and towards its responsibility to the West Bank.

The book, as would be expected, has sparked a serious debate among Arab politicians and intellectuals and has drawn

strong criticism by the Arab nationalists, Nasserites and Ba'athists.

In a lecture, organised by the Lions Club at the Regency Hotel last week, the author strongly defended his argument: stating that Jordan's pre-1967 strategy "was completely misunderstood by the radicals."

According to Dr. Mutawi, Jordan's main goal in the period which followed the establishment of the state of Israel on the Palestinian soil "had been the preservation of the status quo."

That goal, he argued, had emanated from its awareness of the Israeli military superiority and the weakening effect of the deep inter-Arab divisions and in no way had reflected a defeatist policy as Jordan was accused by the Arab radicals of that period.

Jordan's attempt to preserve the status quo, however, was part of a more comprehensive strategy which had aimed at achieving "a joint regional Arab defence system ... which could achieve military parity with Israel."

Thus Jordan, which was aware of its inability to fight alone and of its need of practical and effective Arab backing, had followed a strategy which aimed at deterring a possible Israeli attack by preventing any act which could be used by Tel Aviv as a pretext for a full scale retribution."

That strategy, which had provoked strong opposition by the rising Palestinian armed resistance movement and the Arab radicals, implied the prevention of the commando factions from the use of Jordanian territories as a spring board for military operations against Israel.

Launching military guerrilla operations against Israel was then part of the "mass liberation struggle" strategy, advocated, at least rhetorically, by the radical Arab states and the clandestine Palestinian commando factions.

According to Palestinian writers and leaders the Palestinian movement, and particularly Fatah, was hoping that its continuous guerrilla attacks against Israeli targets would "force the Arab countries to wage a whole scale war to liberate Palestine."

Thus both the radicals and the rising clandestine Palestinian commando factions in the sixties, although Dr. Mutawi repe-



Dr. Samir Mutawi (second from left) lecturing last week during a luncheon hosted by the Lions Club at the Regency Hotel (Photo by Yousef Al Alan)

atedly implied that radical Arabs and the Palestinian movement had given Tel Aviv many pretenses to justify its offensive, he also argued that Israel had been preparing for the war since the fifties.

In Dr. Mutawi's view Israel was hoping that an Arab defeat would lead to the downfall of the governments of both the late Egyptian President Jamal Abdul Nasser and Syrian President Salah Jadid.

"But the target prize had always remained the West Bank," Dr. Mutawi said.

Aware of the Israeli goals, Jordan was hoping against hope that a military confrontation would not occur before a shift in the strategic balance was achieved, he said.

Yet when the decision to fight was made by Egypt and Syria, Jordan had put all of its forces under the joint Arab armed command, Dr. Mutawi noted.

If the political analysis and arguments contained in the book have already sparked a serious debate, Dr. Mutawi's account of the military course of the war is bound to create a bigger stir.

Dr. Mutawi, who based his account on interviews with field commanders and Jordanian military files, argued that Jordan, in

Hundreds killed in Mecca stampede

(Continued from page 1)

Iran's official news media had reported earlier that a total of 155,000 Iranians, men and women, are currently in Mecca for the annual pilgrimage.

Saudi Arabia warned the Iranian pilgrims and their leaders on Saturday that it "will under no circumstance show any mercy to those who transgress the rules of God in His peaceful shrine in the holy months of the Hajj."

"Strict order has been issued anew to the security forces to prevent assembly, demonstrations or marches of any sort," the Interior Ministry said in a statement broadcast by the Saudi state radio and distributed by the Saudi Press Agency.

"All Hajjis are required to devote themselves to the Hajj rites and the adoration of Allah, in line with the norms of Islam."

They said the crowd blocked a number of streets, detouring waves of other Hajjis trying to reach the Kaaba on foot.

"The Iranians became jittery when helmeted riot police appeared and civil defence volunteers used water hoses to disperse them," said Musayhil Al Hindi, a Mecca shopkeeper.

Mecca residents reported that ambulances with sirens wailing were still racing around the city Saturday morning to pick up casualties.

Firemen and civil defence personnel were busy removing the

hulks of burned out cars and broken glass from the streets and sidewalks.

A total of 2.1 million Muslim pilgrims from all over the world are currently in Mecca for the Hajj.

Tens of thousands of these pilgrims have been filling the streets of the Holy City since dawn, following prayers at the Grand Mosque.

Mecca residents said the Friday demonstration began minutes after the afternoon prayer at the Kaaba, streamlining out into the adjacent streets and squares chanting religious hymns, but suddenly switched to political slogans.

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Kenyan president slams apartheid as 4th All Africa Games open

NAIROBI (R) — Kenyan President Daniel Arap Moi opened the Fourth All Africa Games Saturday with a call for the continent to intensify its fight against apartheid in South Africa.

"The most crucial need of the African continent is unity, we need the unity of purpose that will provide us with the strength to face the continent's greatest enemy — apartheid," he told about 60,000 spectators and athletes gathered at Nairobi's new Kasarani Stadium.

"I am fully aware that there are some people who feel strongly that politics should be kept out of sports. We can appreciate their desire to have fun, but we cannot have fun and at the same time shut our eyes to the abuses inflicted by apartheid on human dignity," he said.

Moi's opening speech followed formation and gymnastics displays by 3,500 Kenyan schoolchildren in brightly coloured tracksuits and a parade of athletes from participating countries.

Bet Twice, Alysheba renew horse racing rivalry

OCEANPORT, New Jersey (AP) — Bet Twice and Alysheba renew their rivalry Saturday in the \$500,000 Haskell Invitational Handicap, with Lost Code posing a threat to their domination of the top 3-year-old thoroughbred races.

"No doubt Lost Code is the speed horse, but I don't think he's quite the horse that we have," said trainer Jimmy Croll, putting his colt, Bet Twice, and Alysheba a cut above.

"It's a three-horse race, but when it comes down to the money, it's between my horse and Alysheba."

Bet Twice, who ruined Alysheba's bid for the Triple Crown with a 1 1/4-length victory in the Belmont Stakes on June 6, gallops to victory in the Kentucky Derby (file photo).



Alysheba, who was denied an entry bid to history books when he lost the Triple Crown in the Belmont Stakes on June 6, gallops to victory in the Kentucky Derby (file photo).

straight Stakes, is 2/1, while Clever Secret, 15/1, and Born to Shop, 30/1, complete the field for the 20th running of the Haskell event.

Jack van Berg, who trains Alysheba, wasn't offering any predictions about the outcome.

One thing Van Berg felt certain about was the running of the race.

"There ain't no one going to steal this race," said Van Berg, who had been upset when jockey Chris McCarron pulled back.

Bet Twice, a son of Sportin' Life-Golden Dust, has won all three starts at Monmouth Park, his home base.

Bet Twice and Alysheba each will carry top weight of 126 pounds, while Lost Code was assigned 124.

Lost Code, winner of seven

Gardner smashes Donington lap record in practice for 500cc race

DONINGTON, England (R) — World 500cc motorcycling championship leader Wayne Gardner of Australia Friday smashed the unofficial Donington lap record in practice for Sunday's British Grand Prix.

The Honda rider, who leads the world championship with 93 points from eight Grand Prix, completed the 4.02-km circuit in one minute 39.59 seconds at an average speed of 145.43 kph, over two seconds inside the lap record.

Gardner was chased home by Honda teammate Niall Mackenzie of Britain, a relative newcomer to 500cc racing, in 1:39.71 (145.26 kph).

American Eddie Lawson, the world champion, who trails Gardner by 29 points in the world championship, was also inside the mark, taking his Yamaha round in 1:40.10 (144.69 kph) for the third quickest time.

Officials said some late arrivals were expected in Nairobi Saturday and athletes from 38 countries took part in the parade at the opening ceremony, 10 more than at the previous games in 1979.

The games kicked off Saturday immediately after the opening ceremony with two football matches at the nearly full Moi International Stadium built specially for the games with Chinese help at Kasarani on the outskirts of Nairobi.

The first match pitted hosts Kenya against Tunis and in the second Cameroun were playing Madagascar.

The programme continues on Sunday with hockey, swimming, cycling, wrestling, table tennis and other team sports.

This year's games were originally due to be staged in 1982 but they were postponed for five years in order to give Kenya time to build new sports facilities.

They include the Kasarani Complex and another 20,000-seat

complex in the centre of town where the country's first Olympic standard swimming pool and an international standard basketball court were completed only a few weeks ago.

"It was a big challenge, but due to the support we have received from everyone, we shouldered the challenge with great pleasure," Moi said in his speech.

The Kenyan president intervened personally to ensure the games would take place when it seemed in 1985 as if Kenya was running out of money to finance them and he has pledged to attend them as a spectator daily.

"It is for our love and respect of Africa and in honour of all the sportsmen and women of the continent that Kenya agreed to take up this challenge squarely," he said.

"The fourth All Africa Games provide us with an opportunity to enhance the spirit of friendship and brotherhood that exists between us."

Empoli won one of the matches and Trestina the other.

Promoter Don King had earlier expressed confidence the fight

Italian soccer clubs penalised for match-rigging attempts

ROME (R) — First Division Empoli and Second Division Trestina will begin the coming season with five-point penalties for alleged attempts to rig matches during 1985-86, the Italian Soccer Federation said Saturday.

The federation said its commission of appeal upheld the sanctions after reviewing a ruling by a soccer disciplinary tribunal last week.

The commission also upheld three-year suspensions against Trestina Club President Raffaele de Riu and former Empoli President Giovanni Pinzani.

The men were found to have tried to arrange for two Second Division matches between their clubs to end in draws in the 1985-86 season when Empoli were promoted to the First Division and Trestina just missed going up.

Empoli won one of the matches and Trestina the other.

Lendl edges Arias to meet Connors in D.C. classic semis

WASHINGTON (AP) — Top-seeded Ivan Lendl, pressured for a third straight day, edged Jimmy Arias, 6-3, 4-6, 6-4 Friday night to set up a semifinal meeting with Jimmy Connors in the \$232,000 D.C. Tennis Classic.

Connors, refusing to wilt in 100 degree Fahrenheit (38 degree Celsius) temperatures, won the final four games of his match against Todd Witsken to notch a 6-3, 2-6, 6-2 victory.

West Germany's Boris Becker, a 6-3, 6-2 winner over Jay Berger, will face Brad Gilbert in Saturday's other semifinal match.

Gilbert used breaks in the seventh and final games of the opening set, and duplicated the performance in the second set.

Gilbert remained unbeaten against Davis, using a crucial break in the second set's seventh game to take control of the match.

NATIONAL SOCCER STANDINGS

AMMAN (J.T.) — Result of the Premier League match played Friday within the National Soccer Championship:

Al Diffatein 2 Al Jazira 0

Leading standings:

	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
AI Ramtha	5	3	1	1	6	3	7
AI Ahli	5	2	2	1	6	2	6
AI Hussein	4	2	2	0	5	1	6
AI Diffatein	3	3	0	0	4	0	6
AI Qadisiyah	4	3	0	1	4	2	6

Everton downs Coventry

LONDON (R) — Coventry, surprise winners over Tottenham in last season's Football Association (FA) cup, were unable to repeat their achievement when they returned to Wembley on Saturday, falling 1-0 to league champions Everton in the Charity Shield.

A lone goal in the 43rd minute by Wayne Clarke gave new Everton manager Colin Harvey a winning start in the season's traditional curtain-raiser but Coventry pressed hard for the equaliser

in the second half.

Adrian Heath, late replacement for Gary Stevens after the England defender was forced to withdraw with a virus infection, set up the match-winning goal shortly before the interval.

Gaining possession on the edge of the Coventry penalty area, he slipped a short pass to Trevor Steven whose cross eluded the defence and Clarke volleyed the ball into the roof of the net from eight metres.

All 42 boats from 14 nations

Countdown set for heavyweight unity

LAS VEGAS, Nevada (AP) — Mike Tyson, only one month past his 21st birthday, was trying to become the first undisputed heavyweight champion in nine years Saturday night.

A legal hurdle that threatened to block the fight against undefeated Tony Tucker at the Las Vegas Hilton was cleared late Friday afternoon.

Tyson is recognised as champion by the WBC and WBA. The 28-year-old Tucker holds the IBF title.

The last undisputed champion was Leon Spinks, who as an 8-1 underdog scored a 15-round split decision over Mohammad Ali in Las Vegas Feb. 15, 1978. The WBC then stripped Spinks for signing for a rematch against Ali instead of making a defense against Ken Norton. Ali, incidentally, won the rematch with Spinks.

In 21-year-old Tyson has been charged with misdemeanor assault and battery stemming from an alleged scuffle with a parking lot attendant June 21 in Los Angeles.

And more recently, there was a report that Tyson had left his Las Vegas training camp for four days to visit a female friend in Los Angeles.

Tyson has been instructed by

his attorney not to discuss the assault charge, but he indicated he would not have allowed himself to be drawn into a confrontation.

"If I can't handle it, believe me, I'll find a way to avoid an incident," he said.

Jimmy Jacobs, Tyson's co-manager, said: "A heavyweight champion is always a target for people who want to get publicity or get money."

"He's going to be a target for people who want to take the 'fastest guy'. Boxing history has taught me that heavyweight champions have this problem," Jacobs said.

The report that Tyson had left his camp to visit Los Angeles was not true, Jacobs said. He said Tyson did not go to Los Angeles, but returned to his home in the state of New York.

Rumours also circulated earlier this week that there was discord in the Tyson camp and that Jacobs and Bill Clayton, Tyson's other co-manager, had approached veteran trainer Eddie Futch about replacing Tyson's current trainer, Kevin Rooney.

McDonald said there had been discussions with officials at Kooyong, which hosted its last open last January, about the possibility of the tournament reverting to its original venue if necessary.

Australian Open venue may shift

MELBOURNE (R) — The Australian Open could return to the grass courts of Kooyong if industrial action and bad weather cause further delays in the construction of the new national tennis centre.

Tennis Australia Executive Director Colin McDonald told journalists Friday the mid-December deadline for the opening of the centre was going to be extremely tight and any further delays could be disastrous.

"We have very little time up our sleeve. Our best hope is that it will be finished by mid-December which is cutting it very fine," McDonald said.

The Australian Open is due to be played from January 11-24 at the centre which is costing 70 million Canadian dollars (\$50 mil-

began cleanly on time, with only the Danish entry, Andelsbanken, having problems when she nearly rammed the starting mark.

The winds were westerly, 22 to 24 knots, and it was dry and sunny.

The yachts favoured the starboard end of the starting line and as the winds began shifting, they all kept to a port tack.

After more than two hours' racing, all the competitors had passed the Needles, a lighthouse at the western tip of the Isle of Wight, en route to a midway point in the English Channel.

Original Bechmanns Pfeiffer — the boat which helped put the Danes in joint overall lead by winning the first inshore race on corrected time — was again doing well, in third place.

Australia's Swan Premium III was also up with her teammate, Swan Premium I, dropped back 12 places in only a few miles.

Jordan Times
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Performances: 3:30, 6:30, 9:30, 10:30

7 MINUTES IN HEAVEN

DOWN AND OUT IN BEVERLY HILLS

LOSING IT

NINGA THE PROTECTOR

Performances: 3:30, 6:30, 9:30, 10:30

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Performances: 3:30, 6:30, 9:30, 10:30

Manila charges ex-intelligence chief, six others with revolt

MANILA (R) — The Philippine military has charged former leader Ferdinand Marcos's intelligence chief and six other people with involvement in a plot to overthrow President Corazon Aquino, an official said Saturday.

Brigadier-General Alexander Aguirre, the Manila area military commander, told reporters that former Col. Rolando Abadilla, who headed the Military Intelligence Service Group, was accused of mutiny and rebellion.

Brig. Aguirre said criminal charges had also been laid in a provincial court against former member of parliament Zosimo Paredes and a former air force captain for complicity in a coup plot uncovered earlier this month.

He said four serving military officers, also linked to the conspiracy, would stand trial in a military court.

Brig. Aguirre said the men had planned to attack an air force

base, seize Manila International Airport and take passengers hostage in an attempt to force Mrs. Aquino to quit.

It was the fifth known plot by right-wing elements to topple the 17-month-old Aquino government.

In a message to troops, Armed Forces Chief-of-Staff General Fidel Ramos said the military had to remain vigilant because "the climate conducive to political stability ... is still clouded with danger."

"Let us renew our pledge to uphold civilian authority which is the very heart of our democratic system," he added.

Brig. Aguirre said those named in the latest charges were present

at two meetings where the coup plot was discussed.

Col. Abadilla, who was captured on Monday was charged with mutiny for his alleged involvement in a rebel soldiers' raid on a military camp in April and for complicity in the most recent plot.

The former colonel and two other top officers were sacked when they went absent without leave after a failed coup in January. The whereabouts of the two others, Brigadier-General Jose Zumel and Lieutenant-Colonel Reynaldo Cabauatas, are still unknown.

Asked whether the military was investigating higher military authorities for possible involvement, Brig. Aguirre said: "The investigation is continuing ... and evidence indicates that the elements who could have been responsible as masterminds were

external to the military."

He said there was no evidence, however, to link the plot to a reported plan by the exiled Marcos to organise 10,000 troops and invade the country.

Meanwhile about 2,000 people marched and rallied Saturday to protest President Aquino's land reform programme, which protesters claimed was inadequate.

The rally in the town square of this sugar-growing centre was organised by the Agrarian Reform Alliance of Democratic Organisations, made up of nine leftists and social activist groups.

Earlier, organisers said they expected 30,000 people to turn out for the rally. The group marched from an assembly point a few kilometres away to the centre of the city for the rally.

Last month, Mrs. Aquino ordered that all agricultural lands in the country be subject to redistribution to landless peasants.

Reagan in White House after cancer surgery

WASHINGTON (R) — President Reagan has some 20 stitches in his nose after cancerous tissue was removed but doctors said his health was excellent and he said "I feel fine."

Mr. Reagan returned to the White House by helicopter immediately after the surgery Friday and walked inside waving and smiling to reporters. He wore a large bandage on his nose.

The White House physician, army Col. John Hutton, said doctors cut tissue a half inch (1.27 cm) in diameter and a fifth of an inch (.58 cm) deep to remove all trace of a relatively minor skin cancer from Mr. Reagan's nose.

Hutton said the operation at the U.S. Naval Centre in Bethesda, a Washington suburb, lasted one hour, 52 minutes and only a local anaesthetic was used.

Nancy Reagan, the president's wife, waited in an adjoining room during the operation, the doctor said.

He said some 20 stitches were needed to close the wound, using what he called a Lindberg flap, a procedure commonly used by plastic surgeons.

The stitches are expected to be removed in five to seven days, Hutton said.

"The surgery went extremely well," he said. "President Reagan is in great spirits. He was in excellent health and was laughing and joking with staff upon his return to the White House."

It was Mr. Reagan's third operation in two years for removal of basal cell epithelioma cancer from his nose. The cancer is common, especially among older people, and is caused by years of exposure to the sun.

Mr. Reagan, 76, the oldest president in U.S. history, has been an outdoorsman all his life.

Hutton said the tissue was removed in two excisions and tested microscopically in a surgical procedure that essentially cuts away deeper and wider sections of skin until all the cancer is determined to be removed.

"The excisions were judged to be complete when the borders of the second excision removed were free of abnormal basal cells," Hutton said.

Poll shows Democrats not gaining from Iran affair

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. voters' attitude toward President Ronald Reagan following the Iran-contra revelations has not translated yet into solid gains for the Democratic Party, a poll released Friday suggests.

But the survey, undertaken for the American Medical Political Action Committee (AMPAC), indicates general agreement with the Democratic Party positions on trade and spending, polisher William Hamilton said.

Hamilton's firm surveyed 1,200 registered voters by telephone from July 9 to 19. The nationwide survey has a margin of error of 3.5 per cent, he said.

Half of those polled said the country is on the wrong track,

compared with 38 per cent in the previous AMPAC poll in November 1986, while the percentage of those saying the country is moving in the right direction slipped from 47 to 43.

Fifty-four per cent approved and 39 per cent disapproved of Mr. Reagan's job performance in July, compared with 60 per cent approval and 32 per cent disapproval in early November before the most serious Iran-contra revelations.

Party identification remained steady between July and November, with 37 per cent calling themselves Democrats, 34 per cent independents and 28 per cent Republicans, according to the poll.

British paper defies ban on spy book publication

LONDON (R) — The Guardian newspaper Saturday published a report on an Australian court appeal launched by the British government to halt publication of a former intelligence agent's memoirs, apparently defying a ruling by Britain's highest court.

The Guardian reported on the hearing in a Sydney court, where the government is appealing against an earlier decision allowing publication of Peter Wright's book *Spycatcher*.

The newspaper's editor said he went ahead with publication because allegations in Wright's book had already been raised in the British

parliament.

The Law Lords, Britain's highest court, on Thursday reimposed a blanket ban on printing extracts from the book, which is already on sale in the United States and widely available in Britain.

The Lords also ruled that the media could not report on proceedings at the appeal launched in the Sydney court.

The Guardian is one of three newspapers which had appealed to the Law Lords against injunctions banning them from printing extracts from Wright's book.

Movie producer Joseph Levine dies

GREENWICH, Connecticut (AP) — Joseph Levine, a pioneer independent producer who often was called one of the last movie moguls, died Friday at Greenwich Hospital after a short illness. He was 81.

Among the films he produced were the *Graduate*, *Carnal Knowledge*, the *Lion in Winter*, *A Bridge Too Far* and the *Producers*.

In 1960, Levine staged one of his first big publicity stunts. He "rented" \$1 million from a bank to display at a luncheon in New York to promote the British film

and releasing then in the United States.

He made his first big break in 1959 when he bought and distributed the movie *Hercules*. After that he distributed through his company, Embassy Pictures, such Italian movies as *Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow* directed by Vittorio De Sica and early movies by Federico Fellini like "8½."

In 1967, Levine backed the Graduate with the unknown actor Dustin Hoffman and director Mike Nichols.

Levine worked on 497 films in his career either as producer, distributor, backer or in other capacities.

Panamanians mark Torrijos' death

PANAMA CITY, Panama (AP) — Tens of thousands of Panamanians turned out in the capital to commemorate the death of Gen. Omar Torrijos and signal their support for the country's embattled leaders.

The crowd, estimated by police at more than 100,000, filled 12 blocks of a main thoroughfare in the city's financial district, which has been the scene of almost daily anti-government demonstrations for the past seven weeks.

Banks and stores along the four-lane street were closed Friday, and government supporters were freed from their jobs for the day and lured to the rally at least in part by free food, beer and soft drinks.

Many wore hats, T-shirts or carried banners emblazoned with the words, "not a step backward," a phrase government supporters use to signify their determination to continue the populist and nationalist revolution begun by Gen. Torrijos in 1968.

The demonstration was called to commemorate the sixth anniversary of Gen. Torrijos' death in a plane crash in 1981. But it was also clearly designed to show support for the civilian government and the country's military chief, Gen. Manuel Antonio Noriega.

Gen. Noriega has been at the centre of a political storm that broke in early June when a former

mer aide, Col. Roberto Diaz Herrera, accused the general of corruption, election fraud and conspiracy to murder political opponents, including Gen. Torrijos and opposition leader Hugo Spadafora in 1985.

The general has denied any wrongdoing.

Gen. Noriega, who is seen by opponents as the real power in Panama, appeared at the demonstration with the country's civilian president, Eric Arturo Delvalle, but neither spoke.

Instead, a succession of pro-government political party and union leaders accused the United States of interfering in Panama's internal affairs. They said the United States is trying to renege on the 1972 treaty that will turn over the Panama Canal to this country at the end of the century.

Alfredo Ortega, a national assembly member who belongs to the Democratic Revolutionary Party, called for the expulsion of John Maisto, a political counselor in the U.S. embassy in Panama City.

Maisto has been accused in pro-government newspapers of acting as an adviser to anti-government forces, which have banded together in a loose coalition of 107 professional, business, student and other groups known as the National Civic Crusade.

"Panama is suffering a plague of foreign correspondents," he told reporters. "The foreign press is disinforming the world about Panama. Respect Panama, respect Panama, respect Panama, respect Panama."

The embassy has denied the charges.

COLUMNS 7 & 8

UAE police warn of fake 500-dirham notes

ABU DHABI (R) — Police have issued a warning that fake 500-dirham notes are in circulation in the United Arab Emirates (UAE). A circular to all banks said they should test the country's biggest currency note — worth about \$140 — before accepting it. Holders would not be compensated. The *Khaleej Times* newspaper said that in 1984 the government withdrew from circulation 1,000-dirham notes after "perfectly forged" copies were discovered.

Crime rate falls in Moscow

MOSCOW (R) — The number of serious crimes committed in Moscow has fallen sharply this year, apparently because of Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev's campaign against drunkenness, the youth newspaper *Komsomolskaya Pravda* has reported.

City Police Chief Pyotr Bogdanov was quoted as saying the rate of "grave crimes," including crimes of violence and large-scale thefts, had dropped 32.3 per cent in the first six months of 1987. The number of crimes committed in a state of intoxication had declined considerably, he said, without giving figures or specifically linking the two trends. However, the police had picked up 185,000 people drunk on the streets of Moscow this year and discovered more than 44,000 able-bodied people who were not usefully employed, Bogdanov said. He also reported a rise in the number of burglaries, many carried out by children aged 12 and 13. Bogdanov disclosed that an unnamed foreign student who had been training in Rostov, southern Russia, had fled from a Moscow hospital where he had been taken suffering from AIDS but had subsequently been taken into care. The Soviet Union has deported about 30 foreigners suffering from acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS), which is also starting to spread among the Soviet population.

Man shot in London courtroom

LONDON (AP) — An assailant pulled a handgun from a Kentucky fried chicken box in a London courtroom Friday and shot another man twice in the head, police and witnesses said. The wounded man collapsed in front of a judge and lawyers in south London's Camberwell magistrates court and was taken to King's College Hospital, where he was reported in serious condition, police said. Witnesses said the man was shot as he entered a courtroom to take part in the proceedings. They said his attacker tried to follow him into court, but a policeman swung the court door closed, trapping his arm, and then overpowered him. The prosecuting lawyer tore off his shirt to help stop the victim's flow of blood until an ambulance arrived, the witnesses said. A Scotland Yard spokeswoman said the gunman was arrested and was being questioned. She said both men were in their 20s. They were not identified, and it was not known whether they knew each other, or why they were in court. Lawyer Peter Silver, who was leaving the courtroom when he saw the shooting, said he noticed a man carrying a Kentucky fried chicken box and "thought it was strange that someone should be bringing their lunch into court." "Then I heard two shots," Silver said. "There were gasps of horror and someone shouted 'quick call an ambulance, someone's been shot.'"

6 executed in China

PEKING (AP) — A policeman in southern Guangdong province and five other people were executed this week in China, according to reports seen in Peking Saturday. Wang Rongguang, a policeman at a reform-through-labour camp, was executed in Guangdong's Shunde county for his role in a robbery that netted 30,000 yuan (\$8,108), a gold ring and other loot, the domestic China News Service reported. Wang was the second security official in the province to be executed for robbery since 1983, the report said. Two of his accomplices, who had been released from the labour camp, also were executed, said the report released Thursday. Meanwhile, the *Tianjin Daily* reported that three criminals were executed Tuesday in the eastern port city after a public meeting to announce their sentences. Two of the men were accused of forming a gang of armed thugs who robbed people at train stations and markets in several cities, including Tianjin, Peking and Canton. The third man was accused of knifing two people to death, the newspaper said in an article printed Wednesday. China is in its fourth year of a nationwide anti-crime campaign that has dealt harsh punishment to repeat criminal offenders or those who commit serious crimes. At least 10,000 have been executed, usually by a bullet to the back of the head.

Experts to discuss sex among the elderly

PEKING (AP) — Experts attending a Shanghai symposium on health care for the aged are urging close attention be paid to the sexual needs of China's elderly, according to an official news report. The domestic China News Service, in a dispatch from Shanghai, said a survey of 1,000 elderly Chinese indicated about 60 per cent of those between the ages of 60 and 70 remain interested in having a sex life. There are at least 87 million people in China age 60 or older. They account for more than 8 per cent of the population, and that share is expected to climb to more than 20 per cent by the year 2025, according to government statistics. The country's life expectancy of 69 years is among the world's longest. The news agency report said experts point out that sexual needs of the elderly have been ignored for a long time and that remarriage has been frowned upon by Chinese society. But the article said sexual activity among the elderly is normal and harmonious and can be an "effective drug" to delay signs of aging. Many members of the medical community believe that the "harmony" of sex felt by a man and woman can eradicate loneliness and strengthen self-confidence, the report said. They note that sex among the elderly not only fulfills sexual desire, but more importantly is emotionally satisfying.

Titanic exhibition to honour victims

PARIS (R) — Organisers of a salvage expedition investigating the wreck of the *Titanic* have said that the best way of honouring the victims of the disaster would be a vast exhibition of items retrieved from the sunken liner. The salvage operation has attracted bitter criticism from British members of parliament and relatives of some of the 1,500 people who died when the *Titanic* sank 75 years ago. They have called it "odious and callous piracy." A spokesman for the French Institute for Marine Research and Development (IFREMER), which helped to find the wreck, said: "Letting the wreck disintegrate does not seem the best solution to us. Making something of it instead seems to us the best way of honouring the memory of the victims." She said it was not clear when the exhibition, which is to travel all over the world, would open.

Swiss AIDS cases double in 12 months

BERNE (R) — Cases of AIDS (acquired immune deficiency syndrome) in Switzerland have almost doubled in 12 months from 138 last year to 266 last month, the Federal Public Health Office has reported. The World Health Organisation (WHO) said 55,396 cases of the killer disease had been reported in 122 countries by July 29, including 6,067 in 27 European states. The overall total represented an increase of 2,275 reported cases world-wide in one month. Reported cases in Kenya had more than doubled to 625 said reported cases are only a fraction of the actual global total. It is estimated at more than 100,000 last April. The United States had the highest number of reported cases with 36,808, followed by Brazil 1,695, France 1,632, Uganda 1,138, Tanzania and Italy 771. AIDS, for which there is no known cure, breaks down the body's natural defences and leaves victims susceptible to infections and cancers.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF

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DEAR MR. GOREN

Q.—As opener, I can never decide whether my partner's preference to my first suit is encouraging or not. As a result, I seem always to be either overbidding or underbidding. Can you give me some help? — G.R., Schenectady, N.Y.

A.—To make understanding the principle easier, let's consider two bidding sequences:

1. Opener Responder
1 ♠ 2 ♠

2. Opener Responder
1 ♠ 2 ♠ 2 ♠

In the first case, partner's one-over-one response promised no more than 6 points, although its range is almost unlimited. When he takes a preference to diamonds over clubs, he has done nothing to promise extra values. Indeed, since he had many bids available to show extra values, there is every reason to expect partner to have a minimum response, i.e., 6-8 points.

The second case is different. Here partner has made a two-over-one response, promising at least 10-11 points if you still play old-style Goren or, if